

Human Resources Bulletin 00-6

SBLMP Class 01-02

Applications for the Sustaining Base Leadership Management Program (SBLMP) to be conducted at the Army Management Staff College (AMSC) from 21 May 01 to 10 Aug 01 are due to CELRD-HR in mid January 01 (specific date will be announced later). The SBLMP is a 12 week resident program conducted at the AMSC in Fort Belvoir, VA, for employees GS-12 to GS/GM-14. However, GS-11s and GM-15s may apply by exception. The intensive education program is designed to prepare Army civilian and military personnel for advancement to key leadership positions. The program provides graduate-level, professional knowledge, skill, and perspective across functional areas for leaders and managers who serve, or will serve, in the Army's sustaining base. The sustaining base includes all the functions required to successfully get the soldier to the field and back, i.e., personnel, logistics, acquisition, fiscal resources, installation management, etc. There is no cost for the program itself, and travel and per diem expenses of selectees are centrally funded by DA (except for NAF, Corps of Engineers civil works, non-DA employees and military personnel). Check out the website for more information on the program: <http://cpol.army.mil/train/fy2000/ch01sblm.html>

OPM Posts A New Service Credit Calculator

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has recently posted a new calculator on its website, which can be used by employees in both the FERS and CSRS retirement systems. The Retirement Service Credit Payment Calculator is targeted to federal employees interested in making a payment to get retirement service credit for a period of employment when retirement deductions were not withheld from their salaries. The calculator provides an estimate of the payment due to receive retirement service credit and can be accessed from the OPM website at: <http://www.opm.gov>

Guide for New Federal Employees Available

FEDweek's "Welcome to the Federal Government" Guide is FREE and can be downloaded and printed from their website at <http://www.fedweek.com>; click on the "Hot Free Information" link, then on the download link. You may make as many copies as you wish. According to FEDweek, Federal agencies, managers, individuals, unions, and other groups are finding it extremely useful for newcomer orientation, recruitment, career planning, seminars and more. This guide was created from their Federal Employees Handbook, which can also be ordered on the same web site.

Veteran's Preference for Service in Kosovo

An executive order was issued on 3 May 00 establishing the Kosovo Campaign Medal. The medal will be awarded for service in Kosovo or its contiguous waters or airspace after 12 Mar 99. Recipients of a campaign medal are eligible for veteran's preference if they served for a least 24 months and were released from active duty under honorable conditions. Reservists are eligible if released under honorable conditions for the full period for which ordered to active duty. Veterans with compensable service-connected disabilities, or those who were discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty or for hardship under 10 USC 1171 or 1173 are exempt from the 24 month service requirement. Any employee wishing to claim veteran's preference should submit appropriate documentation showing the award of the campaign medal to their servicing Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC).

New Thrift Savings Plan Funds Startup Delayed

The original startup date of 1 May 00 for the new **S Fund** and **I Fund** has been delayed to 1 Oct 00. The S Fund (Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment Fund) will reflect changes in values of stocks traded in the U.S. outside of those in the Standard and Poors 500 Index. The I Fund (International Stock Index Investment Fund) will reflect the Europe, Australasia and Far East (EAFE) stock index. More information may be found at the Thrift Savings Plan web site <http://www.tsp.gov>.

Position Classification Web Site

There is a site for one-stop shopping for all your classification needs. This site features the latest HR Compact Disk from OPM containing all the classification standards, all DoD guidance on individual standards, a listing of available training courses, the DoD Digests of Significant Classification Appeal Decisions, general DoD classification appeal decisions and links to other DoD services web sites. Check it out at: <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/fas/class/class.htm>

OPM Issues Final Regulation on Expanded Family Care Sick Leave

The final regulations became effective on June 20, 2000. Under the final regulations, an employee may use a total of up to 12 weeks of sick leave each year to care for a family member with a serious health condition. This benefit broadens the options available for employees to meet their family responsibilities. The definition of "family member" for sick leave purposes remains unchanged. You may view a copy of the regulations on OPM's web site at <http://www.opm.gov/fedregis/index.htm>.

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